

that this system of rotation of members and Chairmanship will serve to create a growing body of better informed Senators, as well as a legislative constituency that can speak authoritatively on the needs of the intelligence community.

As the first Chairman of the permanent intelligence oversight committee, I have found the task to be challenging, demanding, and extremely interesting. I do not give up this Chairmanship without regrets. But I think it is vital to ensure that the Chairman be objective and impartial. I believe one reason for the failure of congressional oversight in the past years was that too close a relationship developed between the intelligence agencies and their overseers.

Because the Committee began without any precedents and in a virtually unknown area, everything the Committee has done has been a pioneering effort. I think we have accomplished much in these first years.

In summary, for the first time, we have had a full and complete annual authorization for intelligence activities. We have examined in detail all of the intelligence activities of the United States, including a line-by-line review of the most sensitive activities such as covert action.

Effective oversight of the intelligence community requires the regular review of covert action projects and what are called sensitive collection programs. The Committee has devised a pattern of reviews on a quarterly basis, as well as a case-by-case review of all covert action programs approved by the President prior to their implementation.

Perhaps the most effective means of oversight is the authorization process. The power of the purse is the legislative body's most compelling means of working its will. In covert action, for example, the Committee, in its last authorization, voted on each project, yea or nay. This process of voting on detailed specific activities was carried out in every area of intelligence activity.

The Committee has had very heavy responsibilities but has earned the respect of the Executive branch and the intelligence agencies. In fact, the President, at our meeting with him at the White House on August 4, commended the Committee for its record of security saying that it was better than any other part of the United States Government.

The members have worked hard and I think we now have a staff of outstanding quality which is respected for its abilities and performance throughout the Government.

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I want to thank my Vice Chairman, Senator Barry Goldwater for sharing the burden with me in the difficult yet gratifying work of this Committee. We have worked closely together on every Committee issue and I have gained much from his counsel and views.

I want to commend the work done by Senator Birch Bayh, who will be the next Chairman of this Committee, for the consistent and careful efforts made to protect the rights of Americans as they may be affected by intelligence activities. Senators Morgan, Garn, Moynihan, Case and Chafee have worked with Senator Bayh in this vital area.

Senator Hathaway has performed the very difficult task of putting together the first annual authorization for intelligence activities that has ever been presented to the Congress. It required months of hearings and an unusual devotion of time. This first authorization is the result of the time and effort of Senator Hathaway and his Subcommittee on Budget Authorization, Senators Wallop, Hart and Mathias.

Senator Dee Huddleston as Chairman and Senator Charles McC. Mathias as Vice Chairman of the Charters and Guidelines Subcommittee have been working with Senators Bayh, Stevenson, Biden, Garn and Lugar over the past year and a half, writing the legislation for the governance of the intelligence agencies. Senators Huddleston and Mathias have worked carefully and effectively with the Executive branch. It is our expectation that in most respects the draft statutory charter will have

the full support of the Executive branch. The 1947 National Security Act provided an inadequate statutory base for the intelligence activities of the United States. One reason for its inadequacies was that the Legislative branch was not significantly involved in the drafting of those authorities for intelligence activities. President Carter and Vice President Mondale have told the Committee at several meetings that the best interests of the country will be served by working as closely as possible in this very difficult area of national policy.

Senator Stevenson and his Subcommittee on the Quality of Intelligence have done outstanding analytic work on the product of our national intelligence system. The Vice Chairman of the Quality Subcommittee, Senator Case, and Senators Hart, Moynihan, Lugar and Wallop have supported this Subcommittee ably. The Subcommittee laid the foundations for use by other committees, other individual Senators, and the Senate as a whole, of intelligence information germane to the Senate's legislative duties. It is our hope that the work of this Subcommittee can be expanded with the view in mind of enabling the Senate as a whole to make the decisions it must make on the basis of the best possible fact and analysis.

Senator Biden has been working on the difficult question of secrecy with his Subcommittee, Senator Pearson, as Vice Chairman, and Senators Hathaway, Huddleston and Chafee. It is our hope that in the coming year comprehensive legislation

can be introduced to deal fairly and effectively with the problems of classification of national security information which has bedeviled the United States government for decades.

The burdensome task of investigations has been undertaken by Senator Morgan and his Subcommittee on Special Investigations, with Senators Goldwater and I serving with him. Senator Morgan's Subcommittee has established a pattern of careful, rigorous investigation which has served the Committee and the Senate well.

The Committee as a whole has taken on responsibility for examining major questions such as the oversight of covert action. It is my expectation that the Committee will continue to do so because of the obvious value that comes from the sharing of views and experience that a broadly-based Committee such as ours can offer.

I want to thank the Majority Leader, Senator Robert Byrd, and the Minority Leader, Senator Howard Baker, for the confidence and support they have given to me and the Committee while I have been Chairman.

It has been a privilege and an honor to serve the Senate as Chairman of this important Committee at the time of its creation.

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